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AUTHOR	Claxton, Guy
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ABSTRACT

This book on lifelong learning has two overarching themes: the three Rs of learning power (resilience, resourcefulness, and reflectiveness) and a good learner's toolkit of learning strategies. An introduction previews the main conclusions. Chapter 1 explains how different communities can hold different beliefs about learning. Chapter 2 explores the importance of resilience to learning, an emotional business. Chapter 3 emphasizes a learner's need to be resourceful and identifies the first major compartment of the toolkit: immersion or learning through experience. Chapter 4 discusses the development of natural learning ability and learning amplifiers. Chapters 5 and 6 focus on the second and third main compartments of the toolkit: the world of imagination, and intellect and the ability to use symbolic media (language learning). Chapter 7 looks at what thinking is good for, how it works, and whether education develops it. Chapter 8 explores how language aids learning. Chapter 9 turns to the fourth compartment of the toolkit: intuition or soft thinking. Chapters 10-20 examine the following topics: ways in which the compartments interact; facets of reflection; the problem of transfer; a learner's use of technology; three social and cultural dimensions of learning: how we learn from, through, and with people; why learning is an important social issue now; learning to learn in the early years of home life, play school, and elementary school; whether learning power can be developed through schooling and higher education; workplace learning; and the future of learning. (YLB)

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